IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION of

JOSE CIBELLI * Group Art Unit: Unassigned

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Application Serial No. (Unassigned) * Examiner: Unassigned

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Filed: March 8, 2002

Title: Use of RNA Interference for the Creation of Lineage Specific ES and Other Undifferentiated Cells and Production

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, before paragraph [0001], insert the following:

Cross Reference to Related Applications:

This patent document is related to U.S. Provisional Serial No. 60/273,974, filed

March 8, 2001, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing amendment in advance of prosecution is respectfully requested. In view of the foregoing, this application is believed to be in form for allowance, and such action is hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, he is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

PILLSBURY WINTHROP LLP

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Date: March 8, 2002